

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 11th May 2014

40m Counties Contest

Next Sunday, 18th May, IRTS will host the first IRTS Counties Contest on 40 metres. This generally follows the very successful format of the 80 metres contest and the full rules are available on the IRTS website. It is hoped that the smaller scale of antennas required for 40m will encourage many more stations to participate, particularly the newer licensees. It is also a great band for 'Portable' operation and it is expected that many of the 'rare' counties will be activated. The contest is open to all and EI and GI stations send their county as well as the report and a serial number starting with 001 for the first contact.

Note in particular the rule about the permitted frequencies for this contest, which are for CW 7000-7040 and for SSB 7060-7100 & 7130-7175.

SD by EI5DI supports this contest, and is free from ei5di.com.

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting of Limerick Radio Club will take place next Wednesday evening 14 May at 19.30 in the Limerick Institute of Technology. Club activities for the Summer months will be discussed at the meeting and as usual all visitors are welcome.

Dundalk Amateur Radio Society EI7DAR

At the recent AGM of DAR the following officers were elected as follows: Chairman Brian Whelan, EI8EJB, Secretary Hugh Bradley EI9KF, Treasurer Jim Daly EI2HJB, PRO: Thos Caffrey EI2JD. www.ei7dar.com

Marconi Radio Group Balycastle

The Marconi Radio Group Balycastle have activated their special callsign to celebrate the Giro d'Italia passing through the Moyle Council Area with GB0GDI. The call will be active all week and for 28 days. The station will be in Waterfoot next Sunday and at Whitepark Bay next Monday for the public to come and enjoy. The call sign is very popular and a QSL card will be sought of the Moyle area from many stations around

the world. The club hope to make at least 5000 contacts.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will for the 7th consecutive year take part in the Geoparks Communications weekend which takes place over the weekend of 24th & 25th May to coincide with European Geoparks week. The event is co-ordinated by Martin G3VOF of the Riviera Amateur Radio Club and awards are available for working Geopark stations including the main station GB6GEO. Although most activity is in Europe, a number of stations will be QRV from geoparks around the world.

SEARG will be QRV as EI2GEO from the Copper Coast Geopark in Co. Waterford. As the Geopark event is not a contest, operation tends to be relaxed with ample time and an ideal location to experiment with antennas. There is also a strong social aspect to the event with barbecue and drinks on the Saturday night. Activity will be mainly on HF (SSB and CW). SEARG would like to thank Paula McCarthy manager of Copper Coast Geopark Centre for making this excellent site available to us over the past number of years. For more information about EI2GEO please see www.searg.com

The next Amateur Station Licence Examination will be held on Thursday, 22nd May in the ComReg Offices in Dublin and all the members of SEARG would like to wish all the candidates sitting the exam the very best of luck. We look forward to hearing some new call signs on the air soon.

The May meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford on Monday the 26th of May at 8.00 p.m. New members and anyone interested in learning more about amateur radio are very welcome to attend. Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter and visit our website www.searg.com

The 5Mhz Newsletter

The latest - Spring 2014 – edition of The 5 MHz Newsletter is now available for free download in pdf format tinyurl.com/owbbgk This is our 10th edition and features include: new allocations, WRC 2015 preparation news from the US, a US amateur – government ALE interoperability exercise, a ‘ground’ antenna for 5 MHz, UK Cold War communications using 5 MHz and various updates on 5 MHz activity in a number of countries.

UKEICC

UKEICC are pleased to announce that the free sign-up for membership of the club is now open. The club exists to encourage and improve HF contesting across the British Isles and Ireland. If you would like to join us, please follow this link and sign-up www.ukeicc.com/become-a-member You can also check out our FAQ page using the link below www.ukeicc.com/faq

DX News

Ken BM2JCC will be active from Palau from 10 – 14 May. He will use the callsign T88KH and be QRV on 80 – 6m. QSLs go via the home call.

Members of the Wessex Contest Group MX0WCB will be operating from the Isle of Man from 10 – 17 May. While there they will use the callsign MT0WCB. Look for them on 40 – 10m. QSL Manager is M0TGN.

The well-known Scottish island hopper, Andre GM3VLB, is on another trip over the next few weeks visiting various Scottish islands. As usual everything is dependent on the WX, tides and the local boatman. Andre will be accompanied by Alex GM0DHZ and they hope to activate up to 14 islands if all goes to plan.

Several members of the Sands Contest Group will again visit the Greek island of Samos between 14 – 30 May. They have arranged with the Aegean Radio Association to use the callsign SZ8S. The IOTA reference for this expedition is EU-049. The QSL Manager is M0SCG.

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news maybe telephoned to the radio news editor, Aidan, EI7JC on 085 7100511.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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